(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Effective grievance redressal mechanism is already available in CPWD. However, instructions are being issued to the field officers such as Executive Engineer to ensure prompt attention to grievances of allottees.

Objection of SC for conversion of land use

1343. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has taken strong exception to the proposed move of Government to convert the land use of a green area for construction of Government office complex in the Central Delhi to house the D.R.D.O.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government would reconsider the move in the light of the observations and objections of the Court; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has admitted a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) regarding change of land use of the Plot No. 30, Zone D-9 measuring 21.28 acres. The matter is subjudice.

Demand for allotment of land by CHBS in South Delhi

1344. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand for allotment of land for remaining members of a number of Co-operative house building societies particularly based in South Delhi are pending for allotment for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of these societies have sought land against land taken over by the DDA;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the time by which these requests will be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (e) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that there is no policy of allotting

additional land for Co-operative House Building Societies (CHBS). As land in Delhi is scarce, a decision had been taken by the Government in 1972 that if existing CHBS which had already been allotted land on plot basis desired additional land for accommodating other members, they would be allotted additional land on group housing basis. Since then no Co-operative Group Housing Society has been allotted land on plot basis.

Rehabilitation of Slum Dwellers in SITU

1345. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 10th November, 2002 wherein it is reported that Government propose to rehabilitate the slum dwellers in situ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether any survey of the slums, particularly in the metros, has been conducted;

(d) if so, the details of the survey; and

(e) the number of slum clusters identified in each of the major cities and towns, the number of beneficiaries, the time schedule for implementation of the scheme and the amount earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) So far as National Capital Territory of Delhi is concerned, Slum & JJ Department (MCD) is implementing an approved scheme of in-situ upgradation under which only those squatter families are provided alternative at the same place, where the concerned land owning agency issues No Objection Certificate to the effect that the particular encroached land pocket is not required by them in the forseeable future. The scheme envisages rehabilitation of the squatter families in a planned manner at the same site after provision of the prescribed minimum basic amenities.

(c) to (e) Slum development being a State subject, State Governments survey and take stock of slums in their respective States. However, town and Country Planning Organisations (TCPO) conducted a study on slums in 1995-96 and brought out a report titled "A Compendium on Indian Slums-1996." According to this report the slum population of 23 metro cities for 2001 is estimated as 254.811 lakhs. The details of estimated population living in slums in metropolitan cities, State-wise/Union Territory-wise as per the study of TCPO are given in Statement (*See* below).